

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Madison Ranger District, Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest; Montana; South Gravelly Allotment Management Plan**

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The nature of the South Gravelly Allotment Management Plan project proposes updating of four domestic livestock grazing management plans located on the southern end of the Gravelly Mountains, Beaverhead and Madison Counties, Montana.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by March 7, 2016. The draft environmental impact statement is expected June of 2016 and the final environmental impact statement is expected January of 2017.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Dale Olson, District Ranger, Madison Ranger District, 5 Forest Service Road, Ennis, MT 59729. Comments may also be sent via email to comments-northern-beaverhead-deerlodge@fs.fed.us or via facsimile to 406-682-4233. For all forms of comment, make sure to include your name, physical address, phone number, and a subject title of South Gravelly AMP.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dale Olson, District Ranger, Madison Ranger District, 5 Forest Service Road, Ennis, MT 59729. Phone: 406-682-4253.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Purpose and Need for Action**

This action is being undertaken to review grazing practices and infrastructure on four domestic livestock grazing allotments (Eureka Basin, Pole Creek, Southwest Corner, Robb Creek) to ensure compliance with the applicable Beaverhead-Deerlodge Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) direction. This action is needed because there is new direction in the Forest Plan for livestock grazing, site specific suitability, and site specific Allowable Use Levels (AUL's) need to be validated. Additionally this action is needed to meet the Rescissions Act schedule for updating allotment plans.

Proposed Action

The authorizing official proposes to: Maintain current authorized livestock type and numbers, season of use and infrastructure on the allotments. Cattle grazing is authorized between July 1 and October 15 for a total of 9363 AUMs. Domestic livestock grazing would continue following current allowable use levels. Specifically, for upland forage no more than 55 percent use; for riparian areas no more than 30 percent streambank disturbance or maintain no less than four inches of greenline stubble height measured by stream reach. Reaching any one allowable use parameter requires movement of livestock from the area, pasture or the allotment. There would be no changes or additions in grazing management or infrastructure. Monitoring of compliance with AULs and long term vegetation monitoring would continue. Allotment management plans for the four allotments would be updated to incorporate the AULs and management prescriptions.

Possible Alternatives

No Grazing Alternative. Under this alternative domestic livestock grazing permits on the four allotments would be discontinued with a minimum of two years notice (36 CFR 222.4(a)(1)) to permittees. No new term grazing permits for domestic livestock grazing would be issued. All internal fences and water developments would be removed.

Responsible Official

The Madison District Ranger will be the responsible official.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The decision to be made is whether to implement the proposed action, another alternative, or a combination of the alternatives.

Scoping Process

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process, which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. A scoping letter and maps will be mailed to interested publics, Tribes, and federal, state, and local governments.

It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such manner that they are useful to the agency's preparation of the environmental impact statement. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and

addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this proposed action.

Dated: January 29, 2016.

Dale Olson,

Madison District Ranger.

[FR Doc. 2016-02107 Filed 2-3-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Forest Service****Assessment Report of Ecological, Economic and Social Conditions, Trends and Sustainability for the Custer Gallatin National Forest, Carbon, Carter, Gallatin, Madison, Meagher, Park, Powder River, Rosebud, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Counties, Montana, and Harding County, South Dakota**

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of initiating the assessment phase of the forest plan revision for the Custer Gallatin National Forest.

SUMMARY: The Custer Gallatin National Forest, located in southern Montana and northwest South Dakota, is initiating the first phase of the forest planning process pursuant to the 2012 National Forest System Land Management Planning rule (36 CFR part 219). This process will result in a revised forest land management plan (Forest Plan) which describes the strategic direction for management of forest resources on the Custer Gallatin National Forest for the next ten to fifteen years. The planning process encompasses three-stages: assessment, plan revision, and monitoring. The first stage of the planning process involves assessing ecological, social, and economic conditions of the planning area, which is documented in an assessment report.

The Forest is inviting the public to contribute in the development of the Assessment. The Forest will be hosting public forums near the end of February into early March 2016 with a second set of meetings forthcoming in June 2016. We will invite the public to share information relevant to the assessment including existing information, current trends, and local knowledge. Public engagement opportunities associated with the development of the Assessment will be announced on the Web site cited below.

DATES: From January 2016 through August 2016, the public is invited to participate in the development of the Assessment. The draft assessment report for the Custer Gallatin National Forest is

being initiated and is expected to be available in August 2016 on the Forest Web site at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/land/custergallatin/landmanagement>.

Following completion of the assessment, the Forest will initiate procedures pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to prepare and evaluate a revised forest plan.

ADDRESSES: Written correspondence can be sent to Custer Gallatin National Forest, P.O. Box 130, Bozeman, MT 59771, or sent via email to cgplanrevision@fs.fed.us. All correspondence, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Virginia Kelly, Forest Plan Revision Team Leader at 406-587-6704. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. (Eastern time), Monday through Friday.

More information on the planning process can also be found on the Custer Gallatin National Forest Planning Web site at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/land/custergallatin/landmanagement>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976 requires that every National Forest System (NFS) unit develop a land management plan (LMP). On April 9, 2012, the Forest Service finalized its land management planning rule (2012 Planning Rule, 36 CFR part 291), which describes requirements for the planning process and the content of the land management plans. Forest plans describe the strategic direction for management of forest resources for ten to fifteen years, and are adaptive and amendable as conditions change over time. Pursuant to the 2012 Forest Planning Rule (36 CFR part 219), the planning process encompasses three-stages: assessment, plan revision, and monitoring. The first stage of the planning process involves assessing social, economic, and ecological conditions of the planning area, which

is documented in an assessment report. This notice announces the start of the initial stage of the planning process, which is the development of the assessment report.

The second stage, formal plan revision, involves the development of our Forest Plan in conjunction with the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement under the NEPA. Once the plan revision is completed, it will be subject to the objection procedures of 36 CFR part 219, subpart B, before it can be approved. The third stage of the planning process is the monitoring and evaluation of the revised plan, which is ongoing over the life of the revised plan.

The assessment rapidly evaluates existing information about relevant ecological, economic, cultural and social conditions, trends, and sustainability and their relationship to land management plans within the context of the broader landscape. This information builds a common understanding prior to entering formal plan revision. The development of the assessment will include public engagement.

With this notice, the Custer Gallatin National Forest invites other governments, non-governmental parties, and the public to contribute in assessment development. The intent of public engagement during development of the assessment is to identify as much relevant information as possible to inform the upcoming plan revision process. We encourage contributors to share material about existing conditions, trends, and perceptions of social, economic, and ecological systems relevant to the planning process. The assessment also supports the development of relationships with key stakeholders that will be used throughout the plan revision process.

As public meetings, other opportunities for public engagement, and public review and comment opportunities are identified to assist with the development of the forest plan revision, public announcements will be made, notifications will be posted on the Forest's Web site at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/custergallatin/> and information will be sent out to the

Forest's mailing list. If anyone is interested in being on the Forest's mailing list to receive these notifications, please contact Virginia Kelly at the address identified above, or by sending an email cgplanrevision@fs.fed.us.

Responsible Official

The responsible official for the revision of the land management plan for the Custer Gallatin National Forest is Mary Erickson, Forest Supervisor, Custer Gallatin National Forest.

Dated: January 29, 2016.

Mary Erickson,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 2016-02104 Filed 2-3-16; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Office of the Secretary

Estimates of the Voting Age Population for 2015

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Commerce.

ACTION: General Notice Announcing Population Estimates.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the voting age population estimates as of July 1, 2015, for each state and the District of Columbia. We are providing this notice in accordance with the 1976 amendment to the Federal Election Campaign Act, Title 52, United States Code, Section 30116(e).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen Humes, Chief, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Room HQ-5H174, Washington, DC 20233, at 301-763-2071.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the requirements of the 1976 amendment to the Federal Election Campaign Act, Title 52, United States Code, Section 30116(e), I hereby give notice that the estimates of the voting age population for July 1, 2015, for each state and the District of Columbia are as shown in the following table.

ESTIMATES OF THE POPULATION OF VOTING AGE FOR EACH STATE AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: JULY 1, 2015

| Area | Population 18 and over | Area | Population 18 and over |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| United States | 247,773,709 | | |
| Alabama | 3,755,483 | Missouri | 4,692,196 |
| Alaska | 552,166 | Montana | 806,529 |
| Arizona | 5,205,215 | Nebraska | 1,425,853 |
| Arkansas | 2,272,904 | Nevada | 2,221,681 |
| California | 30,023,902 | New Hampshire | 1,066,610 |
| Colorado | 4,199,509 | New Jersey | 6,959,192 |